

# HARDWOOD FLOORING



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# HARDWOOD FLOORING

*How to buy it  
Lay it and  
Care for it*

*Published by*  
**THE SEAMAN KENT CO. LIMITED**  
WALLACE AVE  
T O R O N T O



NATURE has provided man with two distinct kinds of wood, each type having its own definite use—softwood for outdoor use because of its weather resisting qualities, and hardwood for indoor use because of its wear resisting qualities.

The hardwood family is an extensive one, but we shall confine our attention to those members of it which are most commonly known and used for flooring purposes here in Canada.

From the standpoint of utility and durability hardwoods are practically the same. Only in the grain and general appearance do they differ. Your selection of any particular one will depend primarily on the purpose for which you will require it, and secondly on your individual taste.

**MAPLE.** Canada's own tree is a hard, durable, close, evenly grained, tough wood, light cheerful and bright in color. It was the favorite floor of Canada's pioneers, and in many an old homestead built generations back, the Maple Floor stands out newer and fresher looking than do some of the more modern furnishings around it. It is extensively used now as house flooring in the better grades, but because of its extraordinary durability it is more widely used in buildings where truck or foot traffic is unusually heavy. The beautifully marked curly maple, which is used in a great deal of our more expensive maple furniture, is a product of our own Canadian sugar Maple.

**BIRCH** is similar in grain to mahogany and has been used for years by furniture manufacturers as a substitute. It varies in color from white to a rich red.



SEAMAN-KENT  
HARDWOOD  
FLOORING



*The Floor Beautiful*



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BEECH is similar to Maple and Birch, very hard in texture. It takes stains readily and is easily distinguished from Birch by the small pin-like flakes running through it.

OAK, we all know of as the monarch of the forest and the king of woods. In the traditions of Europe, and a great part of Asia, the Oak appears as an important element in religious ceremonies. It was held sacred by the ancient Greeks and Romans, and no less so by the early Gauls and Britons. Oak is a hard, tolerably flexible, strong wood without being too heavy. It is most admired because of its beautiful grain and rich coloring. Two distinct grains appear according to the method of sawing the wood, whether the saw cuts with or at an angle from the annular rings. The latter method produces what is called quartered oak and shows that splashy, bold ray which is so much admired. The plain oak, is, as it were, more reserved, depending on its simple beauties for its popularity.

## THE PERFECT FLOOR FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Hardwoods are steadily increasing in popularity as the favorite flooring for all kinds of buildings, whether factories, warehouses, office buildings, schools, houses or apartments, or in any structure where distinction as well as intelligent economy and proved durability count. Their closeness of grain, hardness, great strength and extraordinary resistance to all rough usage adapt them for use where





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wearing quality is absolutely essential and the pleasing natural beauty and variety of their grain makes their use for home floors a permanent pleasure to the beauty loving eye.

Softwoods, while they offer splendid resistance to the action of wind and rain, have not the texture to withstand the shuffling of feet and moving of the furniture in a home, let alone the heavy truck traffic of the factory and warehouse and the constant underfoot wear and tear to which schools and office buildings are subjected. Softwoods are an expense no matter what angle you study them from. Their short life makes them expensive; the labor of everlastingly sweeping or painting or scrubbing them is nothing but expense; the moral effect of poor appearing floors is an expense and to cover them in the home with costly, dust collecting, difficult-to-clean carpets is expensive.

Hardwoods, in their extraordinary wear-resisting qualities, and the distinctive natural beauty of their grain, their cleanliness and relatively low cost are the perfect flooring for every purpose.

## YOUR BUILDING

Whether you are building a warehouse, factory, office building, store, school, home or apartment, your floors, because they will be most seen, most used and most abused, demand that only the best flooring material be laid down.





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### FACTORIES AND WAREHOUSES

In this type of building a floor that will resist wear, can easily be cleaned, and requires no expensive up-keep, is essential. The three classes of flooring which may be used are concrete, softwood and hardwood.

Concrete, although it presents a hard surface, will not stand up under heavy traffic. With heavy usage it not only cracks, disintegrates, pulverizes and is constantly dusty, necessitating re-surfacing, also ordinary trucking will cut grooves in it, which once started will continue to grind out until the floor must be replaced; also the non-resilient cold surface of the concrete or plastic floors tends to cause in employees what is known as "leg fatigue."

Softwoods, no matter of what grade or how cut, are of absolutely no use where there is any trucking or moderately heavy foot traffic. Wheels or heavy heels will sink into and lift out the fibre or if the wood is of edge grain they will cut the fibre and the floor will sliver and soon require renewal.

The fact that three great Canadian Railways have each placed surface floors of 13/16 inch maple in their terminal sheds where thousands of tons of freight are trucked yearly indicates that hardwood flooring will, with its smooth, hard touch, wear resisting surface, stand up indefinitely under the most severe tests. Don't buy ruts and slivers—buy Hardwood Flooring.



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FLOORING



The Floor Durable





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## OFFICE BUILDINGS AND STORES

These buildings represent a more finished type of construction than the factory or warehouse and they demand a flooring permanent, durable, economical, readily cleaned and of pleasing appearance. Concrete, although it will not be subjected to heavy trucking, cannot satisfactorily be used because of its tendency to become pulverized, and dusty with heavy foot traffic. Soft wood, also is not practicable, not only does it become woolly, but in becoming so it also absorbs and gives off dust, making cleanliness difficult. The fact that the John Wanamaker, T. Eaton and Robert Simpson Companies and other large departmental stores where heavy traffic is constant all day have, after trying out practically every other well known flooring, adopted hardwood flooring, is conclusive proof that it will, more satisfactorily than any other flooring, resist the year in and year out wear and tear from the daily tread of thousands of people.

## SCHOOLS

No buildings constructed demand more careful thought as to their flooring than do our schools, and after much study and a wide experience school authorities have come to the conclusion that hardwood is the flooring best adapted for school purposes. The constant tread and shuffling of active youngsters demand a floor that will always be safe and strong, will not splinter, become woolly, dust and germ gathering or be difficult to keep clean—the chief draw-backs of soft



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woods. Concrete has been tried but in addition to its tendency to pulverize and create dust, its cold, hard surface has a tendency to "draw" the pupils legs, causing "leg fatigue."

Concrete does not permit desks being shifted, whereas with hardwood, anchorage can't be obtained anywhere in the room. The fact that class-rooms in Toronto's new schools are laid with hardwood floors is conclusive evidence of its superiority for school purposes.

## HOUSES AND APARTMENTS

The choice of only two materials is offered for residential flooring purposes—soft woods and hard woods. The former were never meant for house-flooring—not even in the kitchen. No matter how cut or sawn, the grains in soft woods will lift out and splinter and the fibre will become worn, fuzzy and dusty. Varnish cannot prevent it because the soft wood offers no backing for keeping heel nails and heavy furniture from punching through. In a few months the finish will entirely disappear. Yet without some finish these soft woods will absorb grease and water, and in a short time become an eye sore. Obviously soft woods in themselves are not a good flooring material.

The use of carpets or other coverings to hide its shortcomings can only be considered an attempt to **SOLVE** the soft wood floor problem. Careful investigation of the merits of soft wood floors will convince every homebuilder, who seeks distinction as well as intelligent





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economy and durability, that hardwood floors, because of the lasting, pleasing, natural beauty of their grains, their appropriateness to all kinds of hangings and every type of furniture, their cleanliness, wear-resisting qualities and relatively low cost are the only solution.

Hardwood Floors—unlike carpets—present no crevices, seams or other dirt, dust or germ-collecting places inaccessible to the dust cloth or dust mop.

Except for a small rug or two, which unlike a large carpet can, at any time easily be taken out doors and cleaned, the whole floor is at all times exposed to view and a few moments each day and a dusting mop are sufficient to keep it always clean, bright and cheerful looking year in and year out. Hardwood floors change house work overnight from drudgery to child's play, economize on time and ensure healthier home surroundings, and last almost forever.

Hardwood floors always make the room appear bright, cheerful and roomy—never heavy, depressing and confining. Don't maintain dust and slivers; a nuisance or an eye sore or an expense. Install Hardwood Floors. They cost less originally, cost less to keep up and they will outlast the building they are laid down in. Their first cost is their only cost.

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SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" HARDWOOD FLOORING—made by the largest producers of Hardwood flooring under the British Flag—



SEAMAN-KENT  
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FLOORING



*The Floor Economical*





## SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

protects the buyer. It assures him of receiving the utmost that human skill and modern machinery can put into Hardwood Flooring. It entitles him to SEAMAN-KENT Service in estimating costs, and advice as to correct materials, etc. It brings him into direct touch with an organization which stands ready at all times to render valuable assistance with flooring problems through our selling agents in every town and city in Canada.

SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" Flooring is put up in well-tied bundles, each bundle containing pieces approximately the same lengths. There are thus no overhanging ends which might be broken off in handling, as is the case where long and short lengths are tied together. (For lengths, see Grading Rules.)

Care should be taken in handling the bundles, for Flooring being accurately milled cannot be thrown around like rough lumber without bruising the edges. It should be passed from hand to hand, either to or from the car or wagon. When placed on the wagon or on the job, by first placing one end down, retaining the other end in the hand, it can then be dropped into place without injury.

KILN DRYING. We leave from 4 to 6 percentage of moisture in lumber, so as not to make it brittle or take the entire life out of it. If it were too dry it would take up this amount of moisture after being manufactured. The percentage is determined by a pair of very fine scales.

MATCHED. All SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" Flooring is tongued and grooved on sides and ends unless ordered otherwise.





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Each strip is carefully machined so that it will fit snugly and accurately with every other strip in the shipment.

**END MATCHED.** The ends are squared and then tongued and grooved, so that either with short or long lengths you obtain one solid continuous strip from wall to wall.

**GROOVE TO PREVENT EXPANSION AND CONTRACTION.** Every strip of our three-eighth and one-half inch floor is made with two grooves on the under side to prevent action of local moisture conditions. In the thicker flooring a "hollow-back" takes the place of the grooves.

**QUALITY.** The grading rules at the back of this book give detailed description. With SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" you get all flooring, not flooring together with large knots, and doze, such as with the old style "mill run Flooring." No labor is necessary, therefore, to cut out these defects and square up the ends.

**WARNING.** On account of SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" Flooring being absolutely kiln dried (not merely warmed up in a kiln, but the right percentage of moisture removed) it should not again be exposed to conditions which will render that special process of no effect. Therefore:

Don't take the Flooring from car or warehouse during rain.

Don't store in an open shed or building.

Don't pile or lay it in the building until all plaster is dry. The moisture given off by the plaster will be absorbed by the Flooring.





### Thickness

SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" is made in three thicknesses— $\frac{3}{8}$  inch,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch.

**$\frac{3}{8}$ "**.—The  $\frac{3}{8}$  was designed primarily to meet the demands for reflooring old houses. Note it will require only the raising of the quarter round, and a very slight amount removed from the bottom of the door. This thickness is plenty heavy enough for all the wear to which it will be subjected, for in a house it is seldom that even the finish on the floor needs renewal—hence  $\frac{3}{8}$  will last as long as the building.

**$\frac{1}{2}$ "**.—The  $\frac{1}{2}$  is essentially THE HOUSE FLOORING. It has plenty of body, is firm and rigid. Although an underfloor is advisable,  $\frac{1}{2}$  is sometimes laid direct on the joists and, of course, if  $\frac{3}{4}$  pine or fir can be laid in this manner,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Hardwood will certainly give better results. There is no question,  $\frac{1}{2}$  when put in a house or apartment is there until the building itself is destroyed.

**$\frac{13}{16}$ "**.—Being used in warehouses and factories as well as in houses,  $\frac{5}{8}$  is familiar to everyone in the building line.

### Measurement

To get the board measure of all Lumber products, you take the measure of the original board or strip from which the finished article is worked. With Flooring to cover the milling, add  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch over face on  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch, and add  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch over face on  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch.

Thus— $\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inch is measured as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

$\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inch is measured as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

$\frac{5}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inch is measured as  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

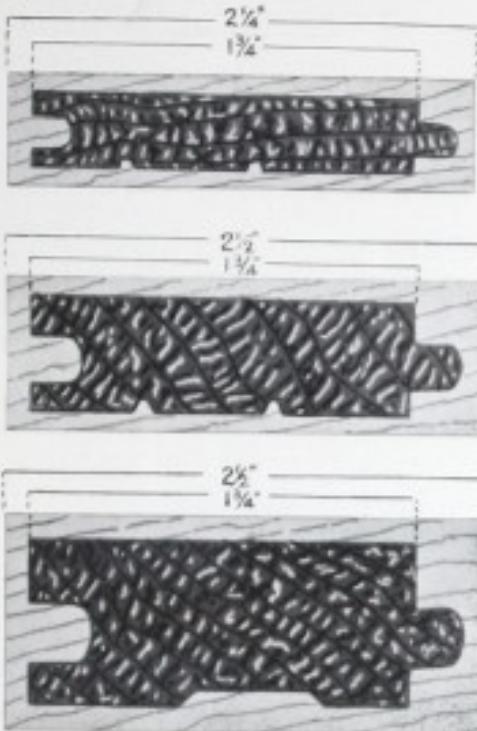
When measuring up a room the following table will be found useful. To get the board measure, add to the surface measure, as follows:

	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{5}{8}$
For $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
For $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, add	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$





# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING



**EXAMPLE.**—Take a room 14 x 16 ft.—224 feet surface. Add 6 feet for doors and you have 230 feet surface to cover. To cover this with  $\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch face, will require 230 plus  $2/6$  of 230 = 307 feet, board measure.

Don't overlook the doorways, for they will take a few feet. If there are many jogs or corners add just a few feet to cover the cutting entailed. Give yourself a little leeway in your measurement so that if you change your plans slightly you will have plenty of Flooring with which to finish up—a few feet over will cost only a few cents and is better than being a few feet short.

## Widths

$\frac{5}{8}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, 2 inch.

$\frac{3}{4}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, 2 inch,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

$\frac{7}{8}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, 2 inch,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inch,  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inch,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

For house purposes, the narrowest widths are recommended. They look neat and present a wider variety in grain. We recommend—

In  $\frac{5}{8}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

In  $\frac{3}{4}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

In  $\frac{7}{8}-1\frac{1}{2}$  inch,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch and 2 inch.

Width when describing Flooring is always the surface. Thus — x  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inch means  $2\frac{1}{4}$ -inch face, though some term it 3 inches.





FACTORY—MEA FORD, ONT.



FACTORY—ST. AGATHE, QUE.



FACTORY—WEST LORNE, ONT.



FACTORY—MIDLAND, ONT.

# WHY SEAMAN-KENT HARD FLOOR CO. FLOOR

*These illustrations picture the various plants and warehouses of the Seaman-Kent organization and show the remarkable facilities at our command.*



# HIRE SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

ONES  
ROM



WAREHOUSE - TORONTO, ONT.



WAREHOUSE - MONTREAL, QUE.



WAREHOUSE - WINNIPEG, MAN.



WAREHOUSE - EDMONTON, ALTA.

*With this modern equipment to work with, the skill of our men is exceeded only by the pride they take in their work.*



## Quarter Cut Oak

With Natural Filler and  
One Coat Wax





## LAYING SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORS

THE time to lay the Flooring is after all other work in the building is completed. The surface will then not be marred by the workmen tracking in dirt nor by the dropping of paint or plaster.

**Underfloor.**—An underfloor is always recommended for every building, no matter what kind of Flooring is being installed. It adds solidity to the construction, means warmth and no hollow sound. The underfloor should be of bone-dry lumber, dressed to an even thickness. It should be laid with reference to the way you expect to lay your surface floor, giving it an angle of 45 degrees. Where  $\frac{3}{8}$  Flooring is used in a new building see that underfloor is tongued and grooved and not wider than 6 inches.



By laying at an angle, if there are any inequalities in the underfloor, it will not be necessary for the surface to follow. Also if the underfloor swells or contracts it will not carry the whole of the surface with it.

In old houses the old floor, if in good condition, will answer the purpose of the underfloor. The new Hardwood should be laid at right angles to this old floor.  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. thickness is especially adapted for this use.



**SEAMAN-KENT  
HARDWOOD  
FLOORING**



## Plain Oak

Note how the Grain is Brought Out  
with Natural Filler and Wax



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

Moisture sometimes arises from the basement or from the underfloor. Two courses may be suggested to lessen the danger of absorption of this by the Hardwood. One is to treat the back of the Flooring with a coating of shellac or of white lead and oil. The other is to use a good oiled paper between the surface and underfloor. Some use both.

**Laying.**—Be sure to have your first strip of Flooring straight. It should be square with the room for if the first strip is right, the balance of the room naturally must follow. When tapping up the Flooring into place or when nailing, be sure not to strike the edge—a bruised edge mars the appearance. SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" you will notice is end matched with the tongue on the right hand end, the righthand workman can thus tap up the strips lengthwise, without chance of bruising the end. SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" is machined to a nicety. It will go together readily and fit snugly with little driving.

**Nailing.**—Use plenty of nails, for nails are to the floor as stitches to our clothes. There would be no squeaking floors if plenty of nails were used and the strips nailed solidly to the joists. Before laying your Hardwood go over the underfloor and nail it till it is perfectly rigid.

$\frac{3}{8}$  in. Flooring should be nailed every 8 to 12 in. on sub-floors and 12 to 16 inches on joist. The best nail to use is the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch cut Flooring nail—being wedge-shaped, they cut through the wood like a chisel and give firm anchorage without breaking the tongue. Thirty pounds of nails are required to lay 1,000 sq. feet at 16-inch centres.

$\frac{1}{2}$  inch should be nailed every 8 inches, but on no account exceed 10 inches. Use a 2-inch casing nail. Twenty-five pounds of nails are required to lay 1,000 sq. feet at 8-inch centres.

$\frac{3}{8}$  in.—Nail every six inches with a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. finishing nail. Twenty pounds of nails are required to lay 1,000 sq. feet at 6-inch centres.





# Maple

With a Wax Finish. No Filler Required



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING



## FINISHING

**Oiling.**—For a warehouse or store, the carpenters' work is now completed. Indeed, in low-priced houses, many apply a dressing of boiled oil at this stage and count the job finished. But DON'T USE OIL if you want the full beauty of the wood to show.

When oil is used, a good plan is to heat the linseed oil until it is luke warm, remove from the fire and add half as much turpentine as oil. This tends to prevent the darkening of the floor, but there is no way of treating linseed oil to keep it from emphasizing any discoloration in the wood. As time goes on a dark gumming film is formed. Hence boiled oil is the poorest treatment a floor can have.

Many also use parafine oil, which serves the purpose of sealing the pores of the wood, while it does not darken like boiled oil.

The Imperial Varnish & Color Co., Toronto, have a mineral oil floor dressing which gives excellent results for schools, stores and low-priced houses.

Where the natural beauty of the wood is to be retained, however, there are just the two methods of obtaining the desired results, applying either wax or varnish.

If waxing or varnishing is decided on, the carpenter has still to put on the finishing touch to his end of the work—the scraping and sanding.





## Birch

Treated the Same as Maple



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

**Scraping.**—Wood, of course, is different from iron or steel in that boards taken from the same tree vary in texture and hardness, causing slight variations in the finished product. SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" by careful machine work, reduces such variations to the minimum, but this and inequalities in the underfloor, make a little touching up necessary.

There are many floor scrapers in general use with which the experienced will be familiar. These machines do good work and do it quickly. Better work, of course, can be done with a cabinet scraper and even when using a machine it is best to finish off with a cabinet scraper—always with the grain, never against it. A little extra care in scraping will prevent waves or scars which hurried work will cause to show up after the floor is finished.

**Sanding.**—When scraped perfectly smooth, sand the surface with No. 00 Sandpaper, and as in the scraping, the movement should be with the grain of the wood. This should be done by getting down on the knees, throwing the weight of the body on the sandpaper, and rubbing it in long, even strokes.

Now clean off all dust with a brush or soft cloth and the floor is ready for finishing.

After the scraping and finishing is done, there should be no occasion for further cleaning because the wood is then in the natural white, with all dirt or stains removed.

If, by any chance, spots or stains occur, remember that wax or varnish will not cover them, but they must be removed before the finish is applied. This should not be done by scrubbing or soaking with water, for water dissolves dirt and this solution is absorbed by the wood. Water also raises the grain and remains in the pores, to be drawn out later by the heat and thus ruins the finish.

Nor should lye, potash, or similar cleaners be used for these chemicals remain in the wood and affect the finish. The only two safe cleaners to use are turpentine for paint spots, and alcohol for grease. Then finally sand again. The sanding is the final cleanser in every case.



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

## DIFFERENT TREATMENTS FOR DIFFERENT WOODS

The procedure now depends on the Wood used.

Plain Oak and Quarter Cut Oak being open-grained woods, require a Paste Wood Filler to close up these minute openings and make the surface one smooth background for the Wax or Varnish.

Maple, Birch and Beech, however, are close-grained woods and do not require a filler.

When a paste wood filler is used, you can secure it colored to suit your own general scheme of decorations.

It should be thinned with Turpentine to the consistency of cream, then applied with an ordinary chisel-shaped brush, care being taken to cover no more surface than can be cleaned off before it starts to harden. We would suggest not doing more than 6 or 8 square feet at a time. A good plan to follow is to start at once rubbing off the filler when it begins to lose its gloss. It should all be cleaned off before hardening, as it will be difficult to remove it afterwards. To clean off, rub with excelsior or cloth across the floor so as to fill all the pores thoroughly. Then allow the Filler 12 to 24 hours to dry.

A paste wood filler should be entirely free from corn starch, flour and other ingredients of this nature, and should be made from silax and pure coloring matter, ground in the best gum Japan medium and linseed oil. If you cannot secure a wood filler coming up to these requirements we would suggest the use of "BEAVER BRAND" Paste Wood Filler, which is put up in 1, 5 and 10 lb. tins and 25-lb. irons.

Four colors—Natural, Golden, Light and Weathered. 25 lbs. will cover one thousand square feet.

For Maple, Beech and Birch the Filler is not necessary. They are tight grained and the method of finishing is the same as Oak after the Oak has had



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the Filler applied. The natural color of the wood is generally used, but if a different color effect is desired, this is obtained by the use of a stain dye, which should be applied according to the manufacturer's directions. Don't take it for granted, however, that the color will be the same as the color card for the way the wood will absorb the stain varies with the wood itself. Try it out in a closet or on a piece of the wood itself till you get the desired shade, and the room then will be uniform.

## VARNISH

First secure your Varnish, bearing in mind the purpose for which it is to be used.

Varnishes are all made from combinations of gums and oils, but the method of manufacture differs with the quality desired. Furniture requires hard, high gloss; boats, weather-resisting qualities. But a floor Varnish or Finish is subjected to a different kind of wear. It must stand up to the scuffing of heels, the scraping of chairs, the moving of heavy furniture or romping of children. On top of this is the grit and dust, which will be tracked in on it.

Hence it must be tough rather than hard; yet it cannot be sticky, else it would attract dust.

These are the requisites of a perfect Floor Varnish or Floor Finish and, if properly made, the Finish will not crack, chip off or turn white. One coat of high-grade Floor Varnish is worth several coats of inferior quality or of any other class.

There are several good floor finishes on the market, but if you are not familiar with the results that can be obtained from them, we would recommend that you secure "BEAVER BRAND" Floor Finish, which is a special preparation, manufactured expressly for Hardwood Floors, and is a combination of pure gum and oil in right proportions, united in exactly timed even heats—science and experience producing a perfect floor finish with that elastic hard quality. You can obtain it either locally or direct from us and be sure of results.





## SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

Two coats of varnish will give best results; allow 24 hours between the two for the floor dries more slowly than any other part of the room on account of the low temperature prevailing there.

The first coat should be lightly sandpapered before applying the second to insure a perfectly smooth surface with a gloss finish.

For a dull finish, 3 coats are advisable, sanding being done after the first and second coat. Then, after the last coat has had two days to dry and harden, rub down with pulverized pumice stone and water.

For an Egg Shell or Semi-Gloss Finish—a soft dull effect—rub instead with pulverized pumice stone and oil. Carefully wipe dry and clean, so that no trace of oil remains to catch the dirt.

When used as above, excellent results can be obtained even by the amateur. The quantity of "BEAVER BRAND" Floor Finish required would be about 3 gallons to the 1,000 square feet, 2 coats.

### When Using Varnish—Note

1. If it is too stiff, don't thin with turpentine or benzine, that would offset the proportions in which it is blended and create unnatural conditions which injure the lustre. Rather warm it till it flows at the right consistency and use only as it comes from the manufacturer.
2. Varnish is susceptible to atmospheric conditions and cannot dry properly in a cold or damp room. The temperature should be between 60 and 70 and never down to 50.
3. Keep windows and doors closed to prevent chill.
4. While working, wear shoes free from nails, rough soles or dirt.
5. Don't try to use over a waxed or oiled floor, as the varnish will not take hold or dry out. First, remove the former finish.
6. Keep your brush clean and pour out no more varnish than will be readily used up, as it is not advisable to pour the dregs back in the can.



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

## WAXING

THE wax is applied after the coat of Varnish. The same care must be taken in the selection of the wax as with varnish.

The blending of hard and soft waxes for floor purposes must be done on scientific lines, for a wax that is too soft soon loses its lustre, and if too hard, it is difficult to apply and there is danger of it powdering.

"BEAVER BRAND" Floor Wax is made from the hardest waxes, tempered to give long wear and maintain good polish and lustre, and at the same time polish easily. It has just the right temperament to go on easily, polish quickly and maintain that polish.

Wax should never be applied on an oiled floor.

Wax should never be heated nor thinned.

Always apply Wax with a cloth by hand, being careful to cover the whole surface with a very thin coat. When this has been applied, work in thoroughly with a weighted brush, rubbing first across the floor then with the grain of the wood. To get best results the first coat should stand three or four days, when a second thin coat may be applied and treated same as in first application, finally polishing the floor with a soft cloth attached to the underside of weighted brush. Work with the grain of the wood for glossy finish.

1 lb. "BEAVER BRAND" Floor Wax will cover about 250 square feet, 1 coat.

### Old Floors

With old floors the method of finishing is the same after you have got down to the original wood.

Old Wax or Varnish should be removed either by scraping or by using a solvent or remover. Care should be taken, however, to see that after this is used the floor is well scraped, so that the chemical will not also work on the new finish.

Get the floor in the same condition as a new floor surface and apply your finish in the same order as above described, viz.: Filler, then Varnish or Wax.



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

## CARE OF FLOORS

A little heavier than a dustless mop, but just as effective, is a soft cloth tied over the end of an ordinary broom. This will collect any dust with little effort.

Be careful in using many preparations offered for cleaning floors, as most of them have chemicals or oil which certainly produces a temporary lustre, but spoils the real finish.

Varnished Floors may be occasionally washed off with skimmed milk and a little water; always rub dry with a soft cloth if you desire varnish to retain its lustre.

If very dirty, a cloth moistened with a soapy solution of water may be used, but be sure and wipe off thoroughly with clear water to remove all trace of soap. Then wipe dry.

A cloth moistened with raw linseed or kerosene oil will renew the freshness of the finish. Use sparingly and wipe off all trace of oil so it will not in turn collect dust and form a dark film.

Clear water with a little alcohol will cut and remove dirt. Don't use ammonia as it tends to darken the wood and injure the finish.

Paint and grease stains may be removed by turpentine.

Grease spots and discolorations may be removed by washing with vinegar and then benzine.

A cleaning mixture can be made of equal parts vinegar, turpentine and sweet oil. The vinegar and turpentine cut and dissolve the grease, while the sweet oil renews the finish. Wipe off thoroughly with a soft cloth after using.

Waxed Floors can be touched up in the doorways or in such other parts where the wear is excessive, or a fresh application can be given to the whole room once or twice a year, if desired.

The high polish can be retained by an occasional polishing with the weighted brush.

With Waxed or Varnished Floors, don't scrub any more than you would scrub your piano.

If the above suggestions are followed excellent



# SEAMAN-KENT HARDWOOD FLOORING

results will be obtained with your Hardwood Floors. You will find them sanitary in every way, always clean and easily cared for. Above all, you will have a bright, cheery, attractive house from the year's beginning to its end.

**H**Ardwood Floors are very easily cared for. Carpets mean a broom, shoving against a rough resisting surface. But with a Hardwood Floor, which is a smooth non-resisting surface, a child with a dustless mop can run over the whole house in a few minutes.

## SEAMAN-KENT "BEAVER BRAND" RULES FOR GRADING

### MAPLE, BEECH AND BIRCH FLOORING

Selected Red or White shall have one face clear of all defects, and selected for colour. Lengths 2 to 16 ft. not over 15% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ft.

**Clear** shall have one face practically clear, but colour no defect. Green or dark streaks not over  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide and 3 inches long, or its equivalent, and small defects which can be readily removed by the ordinary method of scraping after the floor has been laid, permitted. Tongue will permit of one-half short for 25% of length. This grade must have one face free from all shake and check. Lengths 2 to 16 feet but not over 15% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

**No. 1** shall have largely one clear face, admitting occasional small, sound knots and other slight imperfections. Also small checks not over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, providing they run parallel with edge, allowed Colour no defect. Lengths  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 16 feet not over 30% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

**Factory** shall admit of knots and other imperfections. Will make a serviceable floor with some cutting. Lengths 1 foot and up not more than 50% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

### PLAIN RED OAK AND QUARTER CUT WHITE OAK

**Clear** shall have one face practically free of defects, excepting  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch of bright sap. The question of colour shall not be considered. Lengths in this grade to be 2 to 16 feet not over 15% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

**No. 1** shall admit of small knots and sap, makes a good flooring when care is taken in laying and finishing. Lengths  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet to 16 feet not more than 25% under  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet.





THE SEAMAN, KENT CO.  
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Ste. Agathe, Quebec.	Midland, Ontario.

*Sales Offices and Warehouses—*

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